

"What is it?" Heather asked, grinning.

Winfree began to read out loud: "Steve has had a lot on his plate. With his health issues, he's been striking out a lot. He was not sure how he was going to wind up," the card's bio said. "His wife, Heather, thinks he's a great catch so she's just dying to go to bat for him. Now Steve will be a rookie recipient."

It was at that moment, Winfree realized his wife was giving him the best gift of all—a new kidney, and a whole new life.

Heather Winfree surprised her husband, Steve, with his very own Topps playing card.

Heather had been tested to see if she could be a match a week earlier. Before she even received the results, she came up with the creative way to share the good news.

"I had already started planning how I was going to tell him before I knew I was a match," Heather told CBS News. "I never considered I wouldn't be a match. I guess I had to have faith I was going to be a match—that was keeping my hope alive."

Steve Winfree was diagnosed with chronic kidney disease at the age of 18. He was getting ready to play college basketball when doctors discovered he had high blood pressure during a pre-season physical.

After running more tests, Winfree was told he only had 50 percent kidney function. His dreams of playing college ball were over.

"He's been through a lot," Heather said. "Kidney disease is really hard. It's been really hard."

Since the couple met seven years ago, he's developed severe gout, arthritis, undergone several surgeries and had to have a toe amputated. He's been on dialysis for over a year.

"A year ago, they put a port in his chest and he ended up going into septic shock," Heather added. "He spent seven days in the intensive care unit. I can't tell you what that grief felt like, feeling like I was going to lose my husband."

Steve Winfree is told his wife is a perfect match for a kidney transplant, and he could have surgery as early as the end of July.

So when doctors at Vanderbilt University Medical Center told Winfree he was eligible to get onto the transplant list in late June, Heather jumped at the opportunity to offer herself up as a living kidney donor.

"I said, 'I want to expedite this. I want to help my husband get better,'" she explained.

Her wish came true when doctors confirmed the match. If everything goes well, Winfree could have surgery by the end of the month.

"Here I am, I have two kidneys and he needs one—why wouldn't I improve his quality of life?" Heather said. "For 14 years of his life he's been battling this disease and finally we have the relief of knowing the end is on the horizon. We've got hope."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote numbers 379, 380, and 381. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye on all three votes.

JOHN ZABAWA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud John Zabawa who is retiring as Chief Executive Officer and President of Seniors' Resource Center (SRC) after years of service to the senior community in Colorado.

The Seniors' Resource Center is a person-focused non-profit dedicated to enhancing the independence and quality of life for seniors in the Denver Metro community through coordinated services such as transportation, in-home care, and many other life-enriching programs. Under Mr. Zabawa's leadership, the Center has served over 24,500 people each year, developing strong community relations and raising awareness of senior issues. With his guidance, the Center has expanded its programs and services to reach ten Denver Metro and mountain rural counties across Colorado.

Mr. Zabawa started his career as a recreational therapy assistant in Indiana, coordinating activities for psychiatric patients before serving as a youth counselor for troubled youths in Adams County. His accomplishments include President of LeadingAge Colorado, the Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Directors for the Jefferson Center for Mental Health, and the President of the Jefferson County Council on Aging. In 2005, Mr. Zabawa was appointed by the President of the Colorado State Senate to represent Colorado at the White House Conference on Aging, and he was recently appointed by Governor Hickenlooper to serve on the Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging to create an action plan for Colorado's shifting demographic. John has continuously demonstrated passion, dedication, and leadership in advocating and serving the senior communities, and we will forever be grateful for his commitment.

I extend my deepest thanks to John Zabawa for his service to our community and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING JOSH BAGGETT'S YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

Mr. KINZINGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Josh Baggett for his years of service to the people of Illinois' 16th Congressional District. After ten years of working on the Hill, moving from intern to Legislative Director, Josh is now moving on to new endeavors.

Josh Baggett has worked in my office for over six years. He is a valued member of my office, a mentor to staff and interns, and of course, an important part of the intramural softball team.

While my staff and I are sad to see him leave, as well as his beloved dogs Maggie and Rooster, we know he'll always be a member of Team Kinzinger, and we look forward to seeing him excel as he takes this next step in his career.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 16th District, I would like to share my heartfelt thanks to Josh for his hard work, and wish him all the very best.

DE'VONDRE CAMPBELL

HON. FRANCIS ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of NFL player De'Vondre Campbell. A native of Fort Myers, Campbell is returning to his home town to host a summer football camp for our community's youth. As a rookie with the Atlanta Falcons, Campbell forced a fumble, recorded forty-eight tackles, and had one interception.

Campbell is the epitome of hard work and determination as he paid his way to Hutchinson Community College, then earned a scholarship to the University of Minnesota. He did not let this nor his necessary Lasik surgery deter him from achieving his dream of playing in the NFL. At his camp, he will teach young boys not only the fundamentals of the game, but also the value of teamwork, perseverance, and self-discipline. I commend Campbell for giving back to our community and look forward to seeing his accomplishments in the years to come.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF DOMAINE DROUHIN WINERY IN OREGON

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Drouhin Family, who this month celebrates the 30th Anniversary of Domaine Drouhin Oregon, their esteemed winery in the Willamette Valley's Dundee Hills. The Oregon wine industry, now so acclaimed, was still in nascent form back in 1987 when the Drouhins purchased land in Dayton, Oregon. Their bold leap to Oregon from Burgundy, France, brought great recognition to our region, and international confirmation of our enormous potential. It is rightly considered a historic moment for Oregon wine.

In 1989, the Drouhins built their landmark winery, a building that will continue to inspire guests from all over the world while facilitating the production of exceptional wines for decades to come.

The Drouhins embraced the character and soul of Oregon. Through hard work, and in collaboration with their fellow Oregon wine producers, the Drouhins have helped Oregon wines take their place on the world stage in the finest restaurants, in the most respected shops, and in the best cellars. Oregon wine country is a destination, and Oregon wines are sought around the world.

The Drouhin Family's Oregon adventure vividly shows the cooperation—in knowledge, experience, and passion—between France and America, between Burgundy and Oregon, in the service of excellence.

I am proud to acknowledge that, over the years, the Drouhins have contributed their extraordinary energy and resources to a substantial range of charitable pursuits in Oregon,

working to strengthen the community that warmly welcomed them many years ago.

Wine is a reflection of people and place, and it is with great pleasure that today we recognize the Drouhin Family of Burgundy and Oregon. Please join me in thanking the Drouhin Family for their enormous contributions to the Oregon wine industry. I look forward to their next 30 years, and more, of work in and on behalf of the Oregon wine industry.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2810) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chair, I would like to address Section 131 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018.

Last week, I filed amendment No. 247 on this matter; however I have since withdrawn the amendment given that the USAF has moved swiftly to replace the UH-1N fleet through an open and competitive process with the recent launch of the RFP.

The UH-1N replacement program is a priority for the Air Force and for many members

of this Congress, House and Senate. This is for good reason. The UH-1N accomplishes two vital national security missions—nuclear missile security and continuity of government. Over a decade has passed since our Air Force identified the need to replace the aging Vietnam-era UH-1N Huey fleet.

Following collaborative efforts between the Air Force and industry, including meetings and additional requests for information, the Air Force has now released its final Request for Proposal which begins the process of replacing the UH-1N fleet and ensuring a fair and open competition. Unfortunately, language contained in the H.R. 2810, the National Defense Authorization Bill for Fiscal Year 2018, threatens to upend this fair, competitive and open process by pushing a sole-source contract at the taxpayer's expense. Section 131 would allow the Air Force to sole-source the replacement of the UH-1N helicopter.

Frankly, I find this language appalling. The Department of Defense's Better Buy Power 3.0 directive states, "Real competition is the single most powerful tool available to the Department to drive productivity." The Federal Acquisition Regulations clearly articulate the importance of competition to satisfy cost, quality and timeliness aims. Competition is essential to maintaining a healthy industrial base. In Congress, we should be encouraging the Department of Defense to remain committed to competition.

Congress has repeatedly supported and directed a fair and open competition for the replacement of the UH-1N; yet, the language in Section 131 goes against congressional and Air Force efforts to ensure an open and fair competition. Given the fact that responses to the RFP will be due prior to the FY18 NDAA's completion, changing course from a fair and

open competition to a sole-source procurement at this time would limit options, create more delays, increase costs for taxpayers, and potentially impact mission requirements. There is also no justification for a sole-source contract of helicopters when multiple candidate aircraft, including commercial aircraft built cost effectively here in the United States on existing, hot production lines, can be leveraged in support of this mission.

In 2016, twelve Members of Congress signed on to a letter in support of a UH-1N replacement competition, which was instrumental in moving the Air Force towards its current strategy. We must allow the Air Force to continue their competition to replace their UH-1N aircraft and accelerate their ability to field new aircraft without further delay in the interest of national security. We should applaud and support the Air Force for moving forward with replacing the fleet of UH-1N not force them to stop and change course. Changing course from a fair and open competition to a sole-source procurement would create more delays, increase costs, and potentially impact mission requirements.

We cannot let this happen to the Airmen of our nation.

I applaud the Air Force in moving forward with replacing its fleet of UH-1N aircraft that help ensure the security of our land-based nuclear forces. Taking any other path would further jeopardize this critical program.

While I have withdrawn my amendment, I will be working to ensure this language is removed from the final bill during conference. Mr. Chair, replacing these assets is long overdue and I look forward to working with the Chairman and Ranking Member on this and other Air Force priorities.